few months before her death Mrs. Ellen Henneke noted how important it is to make sure the history of the home is properly documented. It was important to her that we not just have records of the major expansions and the dates, but also of the fun and interesting stories that help reveal the loving spirit of Saint Simeon’s and the people who have lived, volunteered and worked here.

On April 6, 2006 Saint Simeon’s emeritus board members, active charter members and other long time friends of the Home came together in reunion at the Home’s celebratory event, “A Look Back in Time.” These individuals who came to Saint Simeon’s to tell their stories and reminisce are closely tied to the history of Saint Simeon’s, representing many others who helped found the home in 1960.

Saint Simeon’s was the dream of Rev. Dr. E. H. Eckel Jr., who in 1929 wrote a letter relating his dream of opening a home for the aged. His dream was born of his desire to see a communal environment where residents of the home could live and assist one another, while sharing a place of religious and spiritual refuge. Little did Dr. Eckel and his colleagues realize that his dream would produce one of the nation’s finest health care facilities for the aging of all faiths.

Some 31 years passed before Dr. Eckel’s dream became reality. Board member Ken Campbell recalled the first board meeting regarding the building of the Home. In 1956, Saint Simeon’s Episcopal Home broke ground and began a legacy. Yes, we have the pictures to prove it! Attendees at “A Look Back in Time” were able to recount the personalized history of the Home’s opening and continued progression. Significant events were recounted for posterity—and for the pleasure of relating fond memories. Even small bits of history, such as the price of the Home’s first vehicle (a $3,000 station wagon) were related. Many archived photographs were reviewed by attendees to identify individuals and events for the preservation of the Home’s history.

Dr. Henneke served as the keynote speaker and entertained the crowd with his witty recollections. He reminisced on his personal affection for the Home and how it served as a loving environment for his wife, Ellen Eaves Henneke, and himself. His remarks resonated with all attendees.

Executive Director of the Saint Simeon’s Foundation, Stephen Mason, expressed the gratitude of the residents, staff, friends and family of the Home to the founding attendees. He reviewed archived photos in a power point presentation that covered the multiple eras of the home—including the period when cattle were grazing on the Home’s land. Many of the pictures in the presentation sparkled loving memories of days past at the Home.

Phyllis Dotson, an Auxiliary member and Foundation trustee, expressed her gratitude to the attendees and commented on the analogy that “having the stems of flowers does not show the entire flower; the roots are hidden away.” She suggested that individuals touched by the Home should “want to know our roots” in order to move into the future and grasp the importance of Saint Simeon’s as a Home built on love.
Simone.

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“When Simone first came to St. Simeon’s, she
lived in the Memory Center. Because of all the
lights and sounds and people, she wasn’t getting
enough rest — dogs need to rest almost 18 hours a
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taking her home and we became wonderful friends.
She is very attached to our walks each evening and
her ‘Greemies’ treat.’

One of the most important positions in a hospital
or long-term care facility is the Director of Nursing.
Carla has awesome responsibilities. She is on call
24 hours a day, seven days a week. She supervises
the care of every resident — assisted by Sue Slama,
Memory Center Supervisor, and Yvonne Simmons,
Assisted Living and Health Care Center Supervisor.
She is in charge of our Infection Control Program
and our Institutional Review Meetings where she
provides a detailed report on the health of our
residents to the Medical Director and Executive
Director.

Carla is a teacher, working not only with her staff
but also every new employee, no matter their job,
to ensure that they understand what life is like for
the residents and how they can better work with
and serve them. She developed a Certified Nurse
Aide Career Ladder program here in 1999 that
allows our CNAs to grow, learn, and get pay raises
as they move up the three-step ladder. “I feel it
definitely helps us retain our CNAs and improves
resident care.”

But Carla’s favorite definition of her job was
provided by a resident many years ago, “Oh, that
means that you are the hall monitor.”

She not only serves the residents and families
here but the wider community. She is on the
Scholarship Committee of the National Association
of Directors of Nursing, Executive Committee of the
State Chapter of the Directors of Nursing, and was
appointed by Governor Brad Henry to the Pain
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She is a past Board Member of the Alzheimer’s
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and poster concerning falls and restraints presented
at the 2000 National Geriatric Association Meeting.

Carla was born and grew up on a farm in
Bitterroot Valley in Montana nestled in one of the
mountain ranges of the Continental Divide. This
valley, which is 60 miles long and 15 miles wide,
was named for the pink Bitterroot flowers that grew
there in dry areas and whose roots were used by
the Indians for medicine. Her family didn’t farm as
a hobby or in conjunction with a job in town — this
was the old fashioned kind of farming like when
this country was young. Her grandparents also
lived on the same ranch, and they were the first to
render their own lard, to saw mill and gravel pit on
the property, worked the fields with horses, raised
alfalfa and grain, and milked cows. “When we got
our first milking machine — that was a big deal!”

Carla was a twin sister, Sandra, who is still living
a ranch life. She and her husband raise cattle on
land in Montana and Idaho and in the summer live
in a house with no electricity in a beautiful location
high up in the mountains. Their younger sister,
Linda, lives on a boat, mostly sailing the Pacific Ocean
and enjoys ocean and river fishing and kayaking.
She and her husband travel a lot now and most
recently visited Cuba. “Every January we sisters
spend at least a week together with our families.
We have met in Oregon, Washington, Las Vegas, and
even Costa Rica.”

The nearest town to Bitterroot Valley was
Corvallis and that is where Carla graduated from
high school before setting off for Montana State
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W
When a dynamic individual actively contributes to an
organization they sooner begin to
change the organization, primarily
by influencing the others on a
personal level. Saint Simeon’s
Director of Nursing (DON), Carla
Stokesberry is just this type of
individual. From passing on her knowledge of
medical and personal care to new healthcare
workers to offering sincere comfort to residents of
Saint Simeon’s, Carla has impacted an untold
number of lives with her knowledge, spirit and
enduring personal qualities. Yet, all good things
must come to an end as new beginnings come
about. The time has come for Carla to retire as
Director of Nursing, completing yet another chapter
in her life, but certainly not the last.

Carla has been our DON since September 1991.
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A Time to retire

Carla enjoys a moment with Simone.
Dear Friends of St. Simeon’s,

My name is Father Bill Holly and I am the new chaplain to Saint Simeon’s. As most of you are aware, Father John Norris retired last to provide a brief background of myself for the Quill, and I apologize to those of you who receive both the Tulsa area. I graduated from Memorial High School, attended Oklahoma State University where I received a B.A. degree in speech communication, and later received my Masters of Divinity from The Episcopal Theological Seminary of Southwest. I was ordained to the diaconate in 1983 and to the priesthood in 1984. I have served congregations in Tulsa and Broken Arrow, as well as doing some supply work for congregations in Penny and Claremore. For a period of six years, I had the marvelous opportunity to seek my fame and fortune in the information technology department of the Williams Companies, in the energy division. While I certainly enjoyed success in that endeavor, it became quite clear to me that I truly belonged in ministry—that was my true calling and my passion.

Although I was born in Houston, Texas, I have actually spent most of my life in University where I received a B.A. degree in speech communication, and later Southwestern. I was ordained to the diaconate in 1983 and to the priesthood in 1984. I have served congregations in Tulsa and Broken Arrow, as well as doing some supply work for congregations in Penny and Claremore. For a period of six years, I had the marvelous opportunity to seek my fame and fortune in the information technology department of the Williams Companies, in the energy division. While I certainly enjoyed success in that endeavor, it became quite clear to me that I truly belonged in ministry—that was my true calling and my passion.

As chaplain at Saint Simeon’s, I am leading our worship services, of course, particularly on Wednesday and Sunday in both the Chapel and the Memory and to the staff of Saint Simeon’s. I am often asked to officiate funerals and each Tuesday, serving residents in different parts of the facility.

Two opportunities for ministry came my way: the first was to serve Saint Aidan’s Episcopal Church on a part-time basis, and the second was to work full-time with Hospice. For the past three years I have done both of these things. I have served patients in a number of settings that Saint Simeon’s is a precious jewel.

When the opportunity presented itself to become chaplain for Saint Aidan’s, I knew in the core of my being that this is where I wanted to be, and the ministry I very much wanted to do. But, I also knew that I very much wanted to continue the marvelous work that Saint Aidan’s has been enriched in many ways. I took this job because my previous job had been “skinning the crickets” in a pan filled with Bee’s wax and they couldn’t figure out why their results were yielding Bee’s wax.

After graduation, Carla, with three of her friends, took teaching jobs in Lancaster, California. “We were impressed that our starting salary there was $5,900 a year and thought we would be rich. We ate out for the whole first month until we discovered that the money really didn’t go as far as we thought. I met the man who would become my husband at a party. Dan is a wonderful husband, father and more fun and interesting than anyone else that I have ever known!”

“We moved to Michigan where I was a substitute teacher and that was where our son David was born. He is now a substitute teacher and that was where I have ever known!”

“St. Simeon’s has been a very significant 15 years of my life. I have been able to grow here and my life has been enriched in many ways. I took this job because my previous job had become boring and it was definitely the right decision — working here has never been boring, not even for one minute! You get to meet wonderful people and feel that you make a difference in their lives and have felt loved and appreciated. I have made friends here that I hope will remain my friends the rest of my life.”
Since the last issue of “Ambiance,” Phase I of the Health Care Center (HCC) renovations is complete and Phase II is now progressing. While many have noted the inconveniences caused by the renovation process, the expansion of Saint Simeon’s is truly an ongoing labor of love. Residents and staff adapt to the changes taking place at the Home, knowing the end result will lead to improved living conditions.

Home Board President Stephen Lake points out that the physical improvements to the Home should be recognized as gifts made possible by the generous donations from residents, families and friends of Saint Simeon’s. Mary Ann Hille, wife of resident Jo Bob Hille, was instrumental in helping to identify needed improvements to the HCC, and Mary Ann and her family have been gracious contributors to the project. The improvements to the HCC offer “increased space for activities, while providing a beautiful setting in which to spend time with our loved ones,” says Mary Ann. She also feels that the modernization has given Saint Simeon’s a setting in which residents feel more “at home,” as opposed to a purely functional hospital setting.

A new formal dining room and a stainless steel kitchen are now in use in the HCC, and since they join one another, the only problem has been the enticement of the wonderful aroma coming from the kitchen while awaiting the serving of the meals, residents say.

The new nursing station in the HCC is complete and operational. Staff members say that the increased space provided by the station has improved their ability to serve residents since it is easier to observe them throughout the HCC.

A new addition to the HCC, the Great Room, provides increased space for relaxation and conversation. Movies, music and television shows can now be seen on a 55” inch plasma-screen television, and heard on a state of the art Bose Surround Sound stereo system. One would not be wrong in stating that residents of the Home have a stereo system most teenagers would envy.

The aquatic life exhibit continues to expand in the Home’s Health Care Center with the installation of a third living-reef aquarium in the Great Room. The aviary, or bird sanctuary, is “up and flying.” Finches, pigeons and a canary busy their day making nests and marking out their territory in the aviary. The new aviary and aquatic life exhibit are additional sources of entertainment and relaxation for Home residents.

New lighting is providing increased visibility throughout the HCC and renovated residents’ homes. The lighting is adjustable to suit the needs of the residents and staff. Proper lighting is simply another example of how small details of the Home’s environment are carefully considered.

In G Wing of the HCC, residents’ homes are now sporting newly resurfaced walls, adjustable lighting, new carpet, new windows, ADA-compliant utility fixtures, granite countertops, new personal-control heat and air conditioning systems and many other improved amenities. Despite the hassles of construction, the renovations have already proven their value. Resident Betty Lawson beams when she says, “I am waiting to show off my new home.”

Saint Simeon’s is committed to providing the best possible environment for all levels of care. While many improvements are apparent physically, it is truly the devotion—of residents, staff, family and friends—that creates an institution which we can all regard as “A Home Built on Love.”
Saint Simeon’s is blessed with residents who share their talents for the benefit of others. One such special resident is talented writer Ben G. Henneke, PhD, a former President of The University of Tulsa. Dr. Henneke and wife Ellen, who passed away in November 2004, moved to Saint Simeon’s in 1986.

He recently noted that their move to the Home, “allowed him and Ellen the freedom to leave Tulsa to summer in Maine and travel abroad and not have to worry about who was going to take care of their house while they were away.”

In 1995, Dr. Henneke was asked by Saint Simeon’s to share his insightful and many times humorous observations about life in the home’s Quill of the Hill, a monthly newsletter printed for the residents, their families, the Boards of Trustees and the Auxiliary members. Fortunately, with some friendly prodding, he agreed to the request and has been offering an essay every month almost without interruption for over eleven years, much to the enjoyment of the Quill readers.

Dana and Anne Smith, residents of San Francisco, California, are two long-time readers and admirers of Henneke’s essays and generous supporters of the Home. They first were introduced to the Quill and Dr. Henneke’s front page essays when Dana’s mother, Mary Elizabeth Smith, moved to Saint Simeon’s in 1996. Mrs. Smith passed away in 2000 but Dana and Anne elected to stay on the Quill mailing list so they could continue to enjoy Dr. Henneke’s writings.

During a visit to the Home in 2005, Dana and Anne asked if we had ever considered compiling Dr. Henneke’s Quill writings in book form and offering the book to the public. They noted they would be thrilled to help. With that encouragement the Saint Simeon’s Foundation discussed the idea with Dr. Henneke and he graciously allowed the ‘Henneke Project’ to move forward with one condition. Dr. Henneke asked that all proceeds from the sale of such a book be designated for the Home’s Employee Education Fund. The Employee Education Fund allows the Home to offer financial scholarships to employees who wish to further their training and education to become nurses, nurse and medication aides, or just more knowledgeable in other areas that benefit the residents. This condition was enthusiastically accepted.

Titled Writing with a Quill Pen, the book features ninety-one short stories including “Tornado Roulette,” “They Shoot Horses Don’t They,” and “The Antique Rider in a Modern Car.” Dr. Henneke writes in the book forward, “Most of my writings—like a quill pen—are of the past. Like a quill pen it runs in fits and starts, sputters when stuck in the paper, and breaks off at the unlikeliest time. Like a quill pen they are treasured by a few to whom I am eternally grateful.”

The very first book rolled off the press in September 2005 and was a valuable bid item during the Western Days 2005 live auction. Soon after the first 250 books were printed, Dana and Anne Smith made a generous donation to fully fund the cost of publishing the book. As a result of their generosity, 100% of the proceeds from each book purchase are designated for the Employee Education Fund.

Frank Eby, President of the Saint Simeon’s Foundation notes, “Dr. Henneke is a Tulsa treasure and we are so thankful that he is allowing us to share his essays with the public with the proceeds helping the Home provide advancement opportunities for the employees of Saint Simeon’s.”

To purchase your copy of Writing with a Quill Pen complete the order form below and mail with your payment information to Saint Simeon’s Foundation, 3701 North Cincinnati, Tulsa, OK 74106. You may also order by phone or email. Call (918) 425-3583 or email smason@saintsimeons.org. The price of the book is $50 (sales tax included). A $2.00 shipping and handling fee per book will be added to mail orders.

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Saint Simeon’s is known for offering the highest standard of medical, interpersonal and emotional care for individuals in their “Golden Years.” This reputation is reflected in the philosophies of several educational institutions that have joined with Saint Simeon’s in training future medical professionals interested in geriatric patient and resident care careers.

Educational institutions partnered with Saint Simeon’s include the University of Oklahoma, Tulsa Community College, Langston University, Interim Healthcare Services, Tulsa Technology Center and Oral Roberts University.

Tulsa Community College students seeking to be registered nurses come to Saint Simeon’s for clinical training. Oral Roberts University also sends R.N. degree seekers to Saint Simeon’s for training, and Tulsa Technology Center and Interim Healthcare Services incorporate Saint Simeon’s in the training of certified nurses aides (C.N.A.) and home healthcare assistants working toward the certification offered at the vocational schools. Langston University promotes the utilization of Saint Simeon’s facilities for students seeking licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.) and registered nurse (R.N.) degrees.

The Memory Center at Saint Simeon’s draws special attention. It is considered to be one of the nation’s finest facilities for care of individuals with Alzheimer’s and Dementia. Among many other visitors, the Oklahoma Scholars on Aging come to the Memory Center to offer seminars covering issues from patient care to the layout of the facility.

Medical residents from the University of Oklahoma practice with Saint Simeon’s Dr. Insung Kim, a renowned specialist in the field of Alzheimer’s. She takes special interest in training medical residents in the field of gerontology, and utilizes Saint Simeon’s as “an example of how well we can care for our elders.” Dr. Kim says that Saint Simeon’s provides a setting in which she can generate interest in geriatrics among medical residents, as there is a shortage of young doctors caring for and serving the aging population. Assistant professor of nursing at Tulsa Community College, Perri Montgomery, feels “Saint Simeon’s offers a clean, professional and open environment” for the training of medical students.

Some of the major reasons educational institutions are drawn to Saint Simeon’s “classroom” are the distinguished medical staff, low staff turnover, modern facilities, the high ratio of residents to staff (almost 1 to 1) and the 1,000 years of cumulative care experience among the Saint Simeon’s staff. It’s evident that Saint Simeon’s makes possible medical professional training in all levels of geriatric medical care by providing a learning environment where ideal standards are met.

Even residents become involved in the training process. Ruth and Gene Anderson, Saint Simeon’s residents, speak to visiting medical students on how aging can be a positive experience. Ruth explains that she and Gene “can eliminate much of the stigma attached to aging as a ‘negative experience.’”

The array of educational institutions choosing Saint Simeon’s as a “classroom” for training tomorrow’s caregivers makes it clear that the Home is an ideal environment for the education of medical professionals. Marian Matthews, Saint Simeon’s Executive Director, concludes: “Our partnering relationships with educational institutions is helping to fulfill one of our primary visions that Saint Simeon’s is an organization dedicated to advancing the standards of care for the elderly.”

Old Medical Residents meet with the Andersons.

Educating Caregivers

A future CNA in training.
Friends of the Animals

Saint Simeon’s Episcopal Home is well known for the exceptional quality of care provided to the 175 residents who call Saint Simeon’s “home.” The Home’s special ambiance is enhanced by a variety of tame and untamed animals that live in and outside the cottages, Assisted Living apartments, the Health Care Center and the Memory Center. Physical and mental health benefits provided by interactions between animals and people are well known. The American Veterinary Medical Association relates that animals can assist in decreasing blood pressure, lowering cholesterol levels and reducing feelings of loneliness, while increasing opportunities for exercise, outdoor activities and opportunities for socialization.

Saint Simeon’s resident Arthur “Gus” Gustafson notes “Most of us had pets as children and as adults and thoroughly enjoyed them. Now, we turn to Saint Simeon’s pets to fill that part of our lives. I appreciate that there are still animals for us to look at and enjoy, even at a distance.”

Saint Simeon’s is located on 50 wooded acres, providing an excellent sanctuary for an array of God’s creatures, large and small. The Home’s Reflections Courtyard was created by the Saint Simeon’s family. The aquatic life is not overlooked at Saint Simeon’s. Currently, three saltwater living reef aquariums provide a soothing array of tropical fish, anemones, crab, starfish and aquatic plant life. Saint Simeon’s resident, Sister Maria Felicitas, has taken a special interest in the aquariums, relating that “Saint Simeon’s has given me my first fish tank.” Sister Maria has provided colorful names for all of the fish that go along with their appearance, behaviors and personalities, such as Mr. Snort, Aggie and Dottie.

The Home’s Reflections Courtyard has a small pond, which serves as the home of two Koi, Boomer and Sooner, and several goldfish. The water feature was carefully designed and constructed so that the Koi could survive the cold Oklahoma winters. This was done by ensuring the depth of the pond’s water was sufficient to insulate the fish from cold winter air. A walking path and benches allow residents and families to enjoy the beautiful sounds of the water fall and the graceful movement of the Koi and goldfish. Two peahens and a peacock also reside in the Reflections and Gazebo Courtyards. The male, named Big Bird, is now showing his colors off to his two lady friends. This has brought about hopes that baby peacocks will soon join the Saint Simeon’s family.

In keeping with the enjoyment provided by wild birds, Saint Simeon’s has opened a bird aviary for residents to enjoy. Created by Living Design of South Dakota, the aviary is self enclosed in Plexiglas and thin wire mesh, providing a large setting for the birds to remain active, as they would in their natural environment. In the aviary there are multi-colored finches, two pigeons and a canary. Each bird was chosen for specific attributes. The finches offer soft singing voices, brilliant colors and the ability to thrive and survive. Most of the aviary’s birds have been adopted by residents. The birds are fed by the Home’s staff, resident volunteers and visiting families.

Our Peacock and Peahens enjoy the Reflections Courtyard.

Large picturesque windows throughout Saint Simeon’s grounds and in each resident’s apartment provide a clear view of the surrounding woods where the wild animals create their habitats. It is always a surprise as to what animal will show up next while performing their routines or investigating the home. The comical nature of squirrel behavior offers hours of entertainment. Squirrels zig and zag about the grounds, doing everything from stealing bird food to making their homes in a favorite tree. Tortoises have made their homes on Saint Simeon’s grounds and each spring we find two to three new baby tortoises exploring the Home’s courtyards. Butterfly habitats have been created on Saint Simeon’s grounds through the purposeful planting of butterfly friendly plant life. The butterflies are attracted to the carefully chosen plant life in their rituals for mating and survival.

Many animals from the local zoo, wildlife sanctuaries and individuals visit the residents. Regular visitors include highly trained show dogs, miniature horses, monkeys, lizards, snakes, llamas and many other types of exotic animals. In almost all cases the various animals come inside the Home so the maximum number of residents can enjoy them ‘up close and personal’, although some residents prefer not to get too close to some of the more exotic visitors.

Undoubtedly the most famous animal at the Home is Simone, a Golden Retriever. Simone was donated to Saint Simeon’s as a puppy and is now nine years old. Her gentle nature encourages interaction with residents, staff and visitors. Simone making rounds with Carla Stokesberry, the Director of Nursing, is a fixture of the Home and Simone can always be counted on to lift the spirits of everyone who crosses her path.

The aquatic life is not overlooked at Saint Simeon’s. Currently, three saltwater living reef aquariums provide a soothing array of tropical fish, anemones, crab, starfish and aquatic plant life. Saint Simeon’s resident, Sister Maria Felicitas, has taken a special interest in the aquariums, relating that “Saint Simeon’s has given me my first fish tank.” Sister Maria has provided colorful names for all of the fish that go along with their appearance, behaviors and personalities, such as Mr. Snort, Aggie and Dottie.

The Home’s Reflections Courtyard has a small pond, which serves as the home of two Koi, Boomer and Sooner, and several goldfish. The water feature was carefully designed and constructed so that the Koi could survive the cold Oklahoma winters. This was done by ensuring the depth of the pond’s water was sufficient to insulate the fish from cold winter air. A walking path and benches allow residents and families to enjoy the beautiful sounds of the water fall and the graceful movement of the Koi and goldfish. Two peahens and a peacock also reside in the Reflections and Gazebo Courtyards. The male, named Big Bird, is now showing his colors off to his two lady friends. This has brought about hopes that baby peacocks will soon join the Saint Simeon’s family.

In keeping with the enjoyment provided by wild birds, Saint Simeon’s has opened a bird aviary for residents to enjoy. Created by Living Design of South Dakota, the aviary is self enclosed in Plexiglas and thin wire mesh, providing a large setting for the birds to remain active, as they would in their natural environment. In the aviary there are multi-colored finches, two pigeons and a canary. Each bird was chosen for specific attributes. The finches offer soft singing voices, brilliant colors and the ability to thrive and survive. Most of the aviary’s birds have been adopted by residents. The birds are fed by the Home’s staff, resident volunteers and visiting families.
Thank you to all of you who choose to contribute to Saint Simeon’s. Your generous donations are so important in our efforts to provide outstanding care & services for the residents of the Home & Adult Day Services participants.

The Saint Simeon’s donors highlighted below gave to the Home & Foundation from October 1, 2005 through April 15, 2006. Contributor names are listed under the specific fund category as designated by the donor. Persons honored with memorial or tribute gifts may be listed under more than one fund category, subject to the designation by the respective donors.

Please call Stephen Mason at (918) 425-3583, ext. 237 if you have any questions or if a donation has not been properly noted. We want to recognize each of our wonderful friends & supporters.

The response to the “Friends of Saint Simeon’s” Annual Fund Campaign has been tremendous! Our goal this year was $100,000 and through six months of the campaign you have donated almost $95,475. Following is a list of donors whose gifts were received from October 1, 2005 through April 15, 2006. At the conclusion of the campaign on September 30, 2006, all donors will be listed on the “Friends of Saint Simeon’s” framed display near the Common Room.

### “Friends of Saint Simeon’s” 2005 – 06 Annual Fund Campaign

#### Gifts of Love

- Anonymous
- Joan Flint
- Stephen & Shelly Jackson
- George B. Kaiser Family Foundation and Bank of Oklahoma Foundation

#### Gifts of Faith

- Dickson M. Saunders Memorial
- ONEOK Foundation
- Margot E. Calkins Foundation

#### Gift of Hope

- David & Andrea Albert
- Mary W. Abernethy
- Ramey & Katrina Raimon
- George W. Knutts
- Frances W. O’Hornett
- Mr. & Mrs. Herbert C. Owen
- Jim & Nancy Westfall

#### Memorials

- Bart E. Baller Memorial
- Mr. & Mrs. Gregory L. Baber
- Mrs. Dickson M. Saunders

#### Gift of Promise

- Cyndy J. Teel Memorial
- Dana & Bob Hudson
- Charles P. Williams Memorial
- Mrs. Charles P. Williams
- Anna Jane Williams Memorial
- Ruth C. Dockery Memorial
- The Judith & Jean Pape Adams Charitable Foundation
- Carl H. Young, Jr. Memorial
- Aline Young

#### Gift of Friendship

- Anonymous
- ONEOK Foundation
- Robert Dillsaver
- John R. & Lucy S. Barker

#### Memorials

- Dr. & Mrs. B. J. Maguire
- Robert B. Lyon Sr.
- Mr. & Mrs. T. C. Storer
- Mr. & Mrs. Gene Starr
- Sheryl & Mike Smith
- Rs. & Mrs. T. C. Snyder
- TG Foundation
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard D. Teubner
- William L. Waller
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard D. Teubner
- William L. Waller

### Gifts of Cheer

- Jim & Linda Furman
- Stephen & Leslie Lake
- Mr. & Mrs. G. Michael Lewis
- Robert B. Lyon, Sr.
- Dr. & Mrs. B. J. Maguire
- Rob & Millie Millerpaugh
- Mary L. Stanton
- Carol T. Wright

### Memorials

- Amy Beth Memorial
- Don Benton
- David & Sandra Peake
- The Rev. Dewitt Boyle Memorial
- Jimmy & Karen Stanhope
- Florence T. Black Memorial
- Jimmy & Karen Stanhope
- Nancy C. Gallaut Memorial
- Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Baker, Jr.
- Stephanie Laubbaugh Memorial
- Jimmy & Karen Stanhope
- Jenny & Green Land Memorial
- Marge Lund
- Sig Lund Memorial
- Latasha Patrick Memorial
- Jimmy & Karen Stanhope
- Margaret Roberts Memorial
- Peggy & Ken Tracy

#### Tributes

- The Rev. William Cox Tribute
- Bridgewater Investment Management, LLC

#### Gift of Friendship

- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Friendship

### “Friends of Saint Simeon’s”

- 2005 – 06 Annual Fund Campaign

- John & Karen Arrington, Jr.
- Marilyn Adams
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous

### Memorials

- The Rev. Dewitt Boyle Memorial
- Ross & Margaret Smittger
- Florence Gable Memorial
- Ross & Margaret Smittger
- Nancy C. Gallaut Memorial
- Ross & Margaret Smittger
- Deedah Harvey Memorial
- Lois H. Gatchell
- Opal E. Hendricks Memorial
- William L. Waller
- Andrew Hill Memorial
- Ernestine S. Hill
- Mack Hill Memorial
- Gayle Jen Johnston
- Mayme Lou Memorial
- Eileen Low
- Liz Pinkerton Memorial
- Marie Frimberger
- Belle Sneed Memorial
- Hal & Lucille Moore
- Baelyn B. Wallace Memorial
- Jean W. Wallace
- Bobbie Wallers Memorial
- Mark & Mary Husband

#### Tributes

- Joyce Bixler Tribute
- De & Mrs. Michael J. Gane
- The Best Family Tribute
- Polly Ross
- Dr. Ben Hensley Tribute
- Christine Smith

#### Gift of Kindness Tribute

- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- American Waste Control
- John & Karen Arrington, Jr.
- Farrell & Mary Jo Dixon
- H. Robert Finning
- Neil Goodwin
- Mrs. James Hara
- Peter & Nancy King
- Barbara Lowell
- Paul & Catherine McDowell
- Dreama Newman
- Judy & Leary
- John & Catherine Prince
- Sarah Randolph
- Robert B. & Patricia J. Segal
- Mary D. Smith
- Richard & Ramona Stanfield
- Bruce & Jane Weber

#### Memorials

- Clair & Margarette Anderson Memorial
- Anonymous
- Carl Bowen Memorial
- Maran Rogers
Unrestricted Fund

James S. Chapman Endowment Trust Robert & Pleasant Trust

Memorials

Evelyn Adair Memorial
Miami A. Frisbie Memorial

Hertha Adams Memorial

In Memoriam (Pictured left to right).

Memorials

Maxine & Jack Zarrow Family

Belle Sneed Memorial

Thera Sharbrough Memorial

George B. Kaiser Family Foundation

Belle Sneed Memorial

Thera Sharbrough Memorial

All Generous Donations Received from
October 1, 2005 – April 15, 2006

Notes Benevolent Fund

Anniversary (Pictured left to right).

 ayudant Memorial

Alvin & Priscilla Musser

Celebrate the 45th Auxiliary

The Rev. William Cox Memorial

Marian L. Franks

Grace M. Stowell Memorial

Marjorie Phillips Memorial

Donald B. & Ellen C. Atkins

Edward & Katharine Wackenhuth

Other Generous Donations Received from
October 1, 2005 – April 15, 2006

Spring 2006
Other Generous Donations Received from
October 1, 2005 – April 15, 2006

Employee Christmas Fund
Williams Companies Foundation, Inc.
Eric Adair
Stony Adair
Ruth Albritt
Inez Albritt
Dove & Andrea Albritt
Wanda Alvertis
Helene Anderson
Gene & Ruth Anderson
Vicki Mandich
Velma Austin
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Baker, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Reece Boone, Jr.
Polly Boll
Betsy Brackett
Mary Bradley
Bruce & Sherry Bostedt
Harry Buzzard
Dr. & Mrs. Stanton Collins
Paul Compton
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Baker, Jr.

Other Generous Donations Received from

Edith Lloyd
Frances Lewis
C. J. & Shelia Lequerica
Betty Lawson
Walter Lahman
Melanie King
Ed & Polly Joyner
Mary Horner
Geraldine Holmes
Dr. Ben Henneke
William A. Hendricks
Jay & Fayenelle Helm
James D. Harvey
Robert & Lou Anne Harris
Mark & Leslie Hamrick
Hope Hall
Elaine Green
Ronald & Catherine Goins
Joan Flint
Cyndi Flanders
Carmen Fields
Ernie Fields, Jr.
Charlene Fabian
Donna Drury
George & Phyllis Doton
Donna Dury
Mary Dyer
Charlene Fabian
Emie Fields, Jr.
Carmen Fields
Carolyn Clay
Larry & Jeanne Fishpaw
Cyndi Flanders
Joan Flint
Jim & Linda Furrman
Ronald & Catherine Goins
Elaine Green
Margaret Grimes
E. Murray Gullatt
Hope Hall
Mark & Leslie Hamrick
Robert & Louise Harris
James D. Harvey
Jay & Fayenelle Helm
William A. Hendricks
Dr. Ben Hennepin
Geraldine Holmes
Mary Homer
Ed & Polly Joyner
Melanie King
Walter Lahan
Judy Lawson
Betty Lawson
C. J. & Shelia Lequerica
Frances Lewis
Edith Lloyd

Marian Lowry
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Marge Lund
Elizabeth Lyn
Eleanor McCann
Mr. & Mrs. Robert McCreny
Dorothy McEntire
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Dorothy Millic
David Murray
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Scott & Jane Polley
Marlyn Phillips
Donna Frater
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Lillian Riddle
Nancy Rossie
Sylvia Russe
Pricilla Russell
Dorothy Sadler
Virginia Sepp
Mrs. Dickson Saunders
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Ruth Stath
Jean Stites
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Thatcher
Donald Tracy
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Whit
Bruce & Mary Willey
Josephine Winnow
Jane Wreic
Aime Young

Memorials
Mary Hercue Ellis Memorial
Mr. & Mrs. Kenna J. Crum
Andrew Hill Memorial
Ermehine S. Hill

Tributes
David & Andrea Albritt Tribute
Cyndi Flanders
Betty Ball Tribute
John and Mary Ann Bumgarter
Nettie Metzler Tribute
Lillian Riddle
Stella Ryonik Memorial
Lillian Riddle
Sted & Julie Wood Tribute

Memorial Center Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Brent S. Schuitema

Memorials
Clare & Margaret Anderson Memorial
Mel & Joyce Backner
Dyllin Cibb Memorial
Elvie Cites
Nancy Gallatt Memorial
Sylvia Schonberger
Donald D. & Ellen C. Atkins
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Baker
Elizabeth Biggie
Mrs. William J. Boyard
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The Trust Company of Oklahoma
Thomas & Lisa Willson
Women’s Association of Eldorado
John & Colin Wyse
Kath A.-indter Memorial
Phil & Marian Matthews
Mary Anne Minerva Memorial
Larry & Jeanne Fahpaw
Dr. Rhonald Whitehead Memorial
Mary & Patty Hill
Stan W. & M. Patricia Hawkins
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Roseanna Jones
Thomas & Martha Mead
James N. New Jr.
Carl W. Newton
Oklahoma National Bank
Dr. Phillip Parker
Tom & Beth Ridgway
Clark L. Young

Miscellaneous Restricted Fund
Eric Adair
Cindy Harbins

Memorials
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Emily Jane Elberton
Mary Annette Savage Memorial
Larry & Jeanne Fahpaw
Laurel K. Wakefield Memorial
Emily J. Elberton

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R. C. Price
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Employee Education Fund
Elva Harmon
Mr. of the proceeds from the sale of “Writing With a Quill Pen” are
directed to the Home’s Employee Education Fund. We thank
each person for their purchase and support

Lynda Allford
Rita Bell
Robert Bell, Jr.
Mary Bradley
James & Linda Broughton
C. Arnold Brown
Ebel Black
John & Rosalene Budath
Nancy Clevor
Carrolon Dalton
Joanne Davis
Malcolm & Pat Deennoth
Eileen Deen
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Harry & Frances Potter
Fritzie Roop
Gordie Ross
Rachel Ross--Jayne Lauer
Paul Ryan
Don & Patricia Savage
Barba & Anne Saur"t
Ruth Staedt
Chad & Anita Steid
Jean Stites
Jill Thomas
Barbara Wallace
Lori Wallis
Margaret Wilson
Fern Wilhe
Dr. Doreen Wood
Mary Zegler

Health Care Center Renovation Fund
Anonymous
Joan Flint

Tributes
Glen Shoe Tribute
Michael & Sheryl Smith

18 Ambiance Spring 2006
of all anniversaries bring great joy; many are a time for prayer and remembrance. The Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was a United States Government office complex located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Little did we, as Heartland Americans, suspect the building would be the target of one of the most infamous domestic terrorism events in the history of the United States. On the morning of April 19, 1995, Timothy McVeigh parked a rented moving van packed with explosives in front of the complex. At precisely 9:02am, a massive explosion occurred which sheared off the entire north side of the building. The resulting effects are known at some level by all Americans who bore witness to and experienced this event. Among those deeply affected by the bombing in Oklahoma City were Mr. A.J. Shields and his wife Arlene. A.J. decided he must take action to show his support and shared sorrow with the victims, rescue workers and others affected by the bombing. In 1996, after careful consideration, A.J. decided to create a memorial flower garden in his front yard, shaped in the form of the state of Oklahoma. The garden was to stand as a mute testimonial to the effects of the bombing, while also pronouncing the will to move forward by Oklahomans.

A.J. then commenced with the design of two granite memorial stones to highlight what the garden stood for and to leave a more permanent monument to those so tragically affected by the bombing. The first stone monument was dedicated to the rescue workers, who risked their lives in the extraction, organization and comforting of the occupants of the Murrah building and surrounding locations. The monument clearly expresses that not only were the rescue workers' efforts physical, but emotional and mental as well.

The second monument drew testimony in the form of a painting and a simple biblical scripture. The painting depicts Jesus Christ embracing children lost in the devastation of the building. The painting is inlaid into the stone for protection from the Oklahoma weather.

In April of 2005, Mr. and Mrs. Shields made the decision to move to Saint Simeon’s leaving behind their home of 20 years and the memorial garden. When the Shields moved into a cottage at Saint Simeon’s he decided that the two monuments were simply too large for his new front yard. A.J. simply stored the monuments and awaited a means to display the monuments elsewhere. Little did he know that the Saint Simeon’s Auxiliary would soon play a major role in helping him find a new home for the monuments.

The Auxiliary’s Tree of Dreams program continually seeks out means to assist residents in realizing their dreams. Residents, family members and staff are encouraged to submit the ‘dreams’ they wish to be fulfilled. Once a dream or wish is received, the Auxiliary’s Tree of Dreams volunteers seek out the people, materials and means necessary to carry out a resident’s dream. From eating at a specific restaurant to flying over the city, many dreams have been fulfilled; however, A.J.’s dream was to be a significant undertaking.

A.J.’s ‘wish’ was submitted by Kathy Hinkle, the Director of Continuing Education at Saint Simeon’s to the Auxiliary and their Tree of Dreams program to undertake the endeavor of finding the monuments a new and final home.

Paula Owens, the ‘Tree of Dreams’ Chairperson, took the lead on making this dream come true. Paula began to seek out an appropriate home for the memorials. It took some six months of phone calls, emails, letters and personal communications before someone took specific interest in the memorials.

A simple email was sent by Paula Owens to Heidi Vaughn, the previous Curator of the Oklahoma City National Memorial. Mrs. Vaughn believed she knew of an appropriate home for the two monuments, assuming the location would be available and other individuals would be willing to assist in fulfilling Mr. Shield’s endeavor. She suggested Paula contact the First United Methodist Church located across the street from the Murrah Federal Building and one of the many buildings that was directly in the path of the bomb’s destruction.

Lee Cody, the church’s Property Director, was contacted by Mrs. Vaughn and Paula regarding the potential home for the memorials. Mr. Cody reviewed the proposal to place the stones in the Church’s Heartland Chapel’s garden courtyard. As a result, he formally requested the Church’s Board of Trustees approve placing the monuments in the Heartland Chapel and the request was approved unanimously. The monument stones were laid into place the week of April 16th, just in time for the 11th anniversary week of the bombing. The Shields’ monument will remain etched in stone as long as time and the work of weather will allow.

A.J.’s dream had been realized, thanks to the work of individuals from a variety of organizations who were motivated to help Mr. Shields honor and remember those who perished in the bombing or suffered in the aftermath.

A.J.’s story of a dream come true is but one more testament to the Auxiliary’s ‘Tree of Dreams’ program. Once again, the program was shown to be essential in fulfilling the dreams of residents of Saint Simeon’s.

Tree of Dreams suggestion boxes are located throughout the Home. Residents can write their own wish, but friends, family and staff members are also encouraged to submit wishes on behalf of a resident. Dreams can and do come true with the ‘Tree of Dreams’ at work.

A.J. Shields (center), family and friends in front of granite memorials in Oklahoma City.
Saint Simeon’s is pleased to announce that Sue Slama, previously Saint Simeon’s Memory Center supervisor, has been promoted to Director of Nursing for the home, replacing Carla Stokesberry who is retiring.

Marian Matthews, Saint Simeon’s CEO, points out that “Sue brings the philosophy of Saint Simeon’s with her, and is experienced in providing the level of care identified with the high standards of the Home.” Sue came to Saint Simeon’s in May 2002 with 23 years of nursing experience. She has a BSN and MS degree in nursing, both from the University of Oklahoma. Sue earned her geriatric clinical nurse specialist credentialing from the University of Oklahoma in 1999, and is certified in both gerontological and rehabilitation nursing. She has held a position on the State Rehabilitation Nursing Association’s Board since 1991 and is a certified American Heart CPR instructor. Sue is available to address any needs residents or families of residents may have relating to Saint Simeon’s Home, and assures that she will continue to uphold Saint Simeon’s mission statement—“Our home is built on love.”

continued from page 7

to lay eggs and produce young within the aviary. The canary has a wonderful singing voice and the two Australian doves, the smallest breed of doves in the world, will act as “grounds keepers” as they prefer to stay near the bottom of the aviary.

The wide array of animal life available at Saint Simeon’s simply serves to further enrich the lives of the residents. From catching a glimpse of a young deer to petting the ever loving dog, Simone, each resident of Saint Simeon’s has a means to enjoy the gifts of the natural world at their leisure. Mental, emotional and physical effects from interactions with animals are not easily calculated or measured. However, it remains clear that a smile from a resident enjoying the animals justifies the lengths Saint Simeon’s goes to in providing a loving home for all of God’s creatures.

Welcoming the Home’s New Nursing Director

The pond fish are always awaiting more food.

The wide array of animal life available at Saint Simeon’s simply serves to further enrich the lives of the residents. From catching a glimpse of a young deer to petting the ever loving dog, Simone, each resident of Saint Simeon’s has a means to enjoy the gifts of the natural world at their leisure. Mental, emotional and physical effects from interactions with animals are not easily calculated or measured. However, it remains clear that a smile from a resident enjoying the animals justifies the lengths Saint Simeon’s goes to in providing a loving home for all of God’s creatures.

continued from page 7